

Islamist terrorists involved, including supporters of bin Laden's, have received specialized training and equipment in camps in Pakistan since the Fall of 1998. The infiltrating force itself—a composite grouping of Pakistani regulars and Islamist terrorists (Kashmiris, Pakistanis, Afghans and Arabs) is reportedly operating in close cooperation with the local units of the Pakistani Armed Forces. There should be little doubt that these forces conduct a war-by-proxy on behalf of Pakistan.

No less troubling are the recent claims by Pakistani officials that the fighting in the Kargil area is actually taking place on Pakistani territory. The essence of this claim is challenging the validity of the Line of Control (LOC) as defined by the Simla Accords of 1972. One cannot hope to reduce tension and build mutual trust—commonly regulated in international treaties and agreements—when one of the protagonists unilaterally challenges the validity of well established bilateral and international agreements.

Thus, these recent developments are particularly troubling given the agreement between India and Pakistan earlier this year, the Lahore Declaration, that sought to promote regional stability and security, and most importantly peace, in South Asia. However, the actions of these terrorists are precisely what those concerned about India and the security of the region have raised as being a potential problem.

It is certainly in the United States' best interest to ensure stability in this region. India is important to our national security in an increasingly dangerous area. India and the United States share common bonds in fighting terrorism. We also share growing concerns with China, too. India is justified in taking action to remove these terrorists from within its borders. If these infiltrators are allowed in with no action to expel them, it will only embolden others to take their place.

I am hopeful that discussions scheduled for this weekend between India's Prime Minister Vajpayee and Pakistan's Prime Minister Sharif will resolve this issue. In any event, the U.S. should support the peaceful resolution to this conflict.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1401) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2000 and 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, and for other purposes:

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Sanchez-Morella-Lowey amendment. American women have a constitutionally protected right to choose. We must protect this right.

The Sanchez-Morella-Lowey amendment would reverse the ban on privately funded abortion services at U.S. military bases overseas. This amendment would provide service-

women and military wives who live on American overseas military bases, the same access to health care as their United States based colleagues. The women we station overseas are already making great sacrifices for their country by leaving behind their family, friends, and community. We should not deny them their constitutional rights nor access to reproductive services.

This amendment would not expend Federal funds for abortion services. This amendment would not require health care professionals who oppose abortion to provide this medical service owing to their moral principle or as a matter of conscience. This amendment would return this policy to where it previously stood for many years under both Republican and Democratic administrations. The Department of Defense supports this amendment. Simply put, this amendment would allow women stationed overseas to use their own funds at overseas military hospitals to exercise their constitutional right to obtain abortion services. Current policy forces women who seek reproductive services to wait until they return to America or to seek out illegal and unsafe procedures near where they are stationed. Therefore current policy often jeopardizes their health and lives.

While I certainly respect my colleagues' views on the question of abortion, the fact is that women do have a right to choose that option, in consultation with their family, their doctors, and their God, and we should not make that decision more dangerous for them.

In the interest of making abortions safe when necessary, I urge my colleagues to vote to support the Sanchez-Morella-Lowey amendment. By allowing the Department of Defense to move ahead on this, we will ensure the safety of the American women we have stationed overseas. We have a responsibility to do this.

ANDREW TOWNE, LeGRAND SMITH
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF
PITTSFORD, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Andrew Towne, winner of the 1999 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Andrew is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Andrew Towne is an exceptional student at Pittsford High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Andrew's involvement in football, basketball and track began his freshman year and continued through his freshman year and continued through his senior year. He excelled both academically and athletically as Captain of the Quiz Bowl and

Basketball Team. Outside of school, Andrew participated in several volunteer activities to improve the community.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Andrew Towne for his selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE GLENWOOD SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE TITLE I DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL AWARD

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Glenwood School of Springfield, Massachusetts. The Glenwood School was recently included as one of 88 schools nationally awarded the Title I Distinguished School Award. This award recognizes schools operating in high-poverty attendance areas that have been successful in raising the level of achievement of their students. This award is a tribute to the collective efforts of the dedicated educators, parents, administrators, and most of all the students. The backbone of the operation is the principal of the school, Mr. Daniel J. Warwick. He worked in conjunction with United Cooperative Bank, the PTO, and volunteers to ensure that the students would be given the best opportunity to achieve such an academic turnaround.

All parties involved displayed mutual hard work to earn this recognition as an exemplary school nationwide. The steps taken at Glenwood School will help to lessen the gap of achievement between advantaged and disadvantaged students. The hard work that all the members of the Glenwood School community portrayed will help to show that all children can learn to high standards.

This community has also shown a set of priorities that other schools with high concentrations of children in poverty can abide by. These priorities included an emphasis on challenging academic content and performance centers, a teaching/learning environment characterized by curricula aligned to standards and an assessment system, and a commitment to ongoing professional development, family, and community involvement.

The Glenwood School has successfully overcome socioeconomic problems (82% poverty level) to achieve academic excellence. It has shown all children that they have the opportunity to learn and realize their true potential. By incorporating the entire student body and community the Glenwood School has overcome the odds. Their recent success should be commended. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have such a hard working school in my district. Glenwood School's inaugural success has sparked a desire to continue moving forward. This sole reason perhaps more so than any other, deserves our respect and congratulations.